

BOARD OF TRADE OFFICIAL PERFIN

In the book 'GB Official Perfins' by T.A. Edwards and B.C. Lucas it states in the chapter on the Board of Trade that the only use for the B.T/Crown perfin, when it was first introduced in 1881, was on foreign mail and for pre-payment of the registration fee, as ordinary mail would not be required to bear postage stamps. However after 1887 an additional use would be for pre-payment of parcels using the Inland Parcel Post Service. Consequently, all used examples should have London postmarks.

PETER WOOD has sent a photocopy of a proving cover with 1d lilac B.T/Crown perfin dated 1892 postmarked single ring "LONDON E". The addressee is E.W.RASHLEIGH ESQRE, KILMARSH, PAR STATION, CORNWALL and the sender is printed as, STOREKEEPER'S DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE OFFICES, POPLAR. One would assume that this cover was on some type of parcel to be called for at Par Station, so bearing out the facts in the GB Official Perfins book.